UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

CHARLOTTESVILLE DIVISION

CLERK'S OFFICE U.S. DIST. COURT
AT LYNCHBURG, VA
FILED
12/30/2022
LAURAA.AUSTIN, CLERK
BY: S/ C. Amos
DEPUTY CLERK

ELIZABETH SINES, CHELSEA ALVARADO, THOMAS BAKER, MARISSA BLAIR, MARCUS MARTIN, APRIL MUÑIZ, NATALIE ROMERO, and SETH WISPELWEY,

Plaintiffs,

v.

JASON KESSLER, RICHARD SPENCER, CHRISTOPHER CANTWELL, JAMES ALEX FIELDS, JR., VANGUARD AMERICA, ANDREW ANGLIN, MOONBASE HOLDINGS, LLC, ROBERT AZZMADOR RAY, NATHAN DAMIGO, ELLIOTT KLINE (a/k/a ELI MOSELY), MATTHEW HEIMBACH, MATTHEW PARROTT (a/k/a DAVID MATTHEW PARROTT), TRADITIONALIST WORKER PARTY, MICHAEL HILL, MICHAEL TUBBS, LEAGUE OF THE SOUTH, JEFF SCHOEP, NATIONAL SOCIALIST MOVEMENT, NATIONALIST FRONT, AUGUSTUS SOL INVICTUS, FRATERNAL ORDER OF THE ALT-KNIGHTS, LOYAL WHITE KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, and EAST COAST KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN (a/k/a EAST COAST KNIGHTS OF THE TRUE INVISIBLE EMPIRE),

Defendants.

CASE No. 3:17-cv-00072

<u>ORDER</u>

JUDGE NORMAN K. MOON

This matter is before the Court on numerous post-trial motions challenging the jury verdict in this case. *See* Dkt. 1488 (Cantwell); Dkt. 1522 (Kessler, Damigo, Identity Evropa);

Dkt. 1542 (Schoep); Dkt. 1543 (National Socialist Movement); Dkt. 1548 (League of the House, Hill, Tubbs); Dkt. 1550 (Spencer); Dkt. 1551 (Fields); Dkt. 1556 (Traditionalist Worker Party, Parrott, Heimbach); Dkts. 1536, 1557 (Cantwell).

The jury found Defendants liable for Plaintiffs' injuries suffered during the Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville on August 11 and 12, 2017, on account of Defendants' conduct planning and participating in Unite the Right. The jury found all Defendants liable for Virginia state law civil conspiracy; found Jason Kessler, Richard Spencer, Elliott Kline, Robert "Azzmador" Ray, Christopher Cantwell, and James Alex Fields, Jr., liable for racial, religious, or ethnic harassment or violence; and found Fields liable for assault and battery and intentional infliction of emotional distress.

AFFIRMS THE JURY VERDICT findings of Defendants' liability, and as to the jury's compensatory damages award; except that the Court will REDUCE the jury's punitive damages award to \$350,000, as compelled by the Virginia statutory cap on punitive damages. The jury's verdict will be AFFIRMED in all other respects. Accordingly, Defendants' post-trial motions will be GRANTED IN PART, only insofar as they sought reduction of the punitive damages award in accordance with Virginia's statutory cap on punitive damages, but DENIED IN PART in all other respects. See Dkts. 1488, 1522, 1536, 1548, 1550, 1551, 1556, 1557. The Court will DENY those motions which did not argue that the punitive damages award should be reduced in accordance Virginia's statutory cap on punitive damages. Dkts. 1542, 1543. The Clerk of Court is directed to terminate Dkt. 1595 as an outstanding motion and rename it as a reply in further support of Spencer's post-trial motion (Dkt. 1550).

It is so **ORDERED**.

The Clerk of Court is directed to send this Order to the parties.

ENTERED this 30th day of December, 2022.

Manua K Mon NORMAN K. MOON SENIOR UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE